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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION 25X1

1. The training program in the 45th Gds Mecz Regt was divided into two phases. The winter training phase was conducted in the permanent garrison area, and the summer training phase in the summer training camp. These two phases were in turn divided into two periods, each period lasting three months. The winter training phase started in 15 November and lasted until 15 May, and the summer training phase started on 15 May and lasted until 15 November. The training schedule was flexible and the information given below is only tentative. Some of the time was set aside for barracks cleaning, parades and similar activities. About 552 hours were devoted to training during the three-month period. The hours were subdivided in the following manner:

Subject

Number of hours

Small arms firing
Infantry tactics
Close order drill
Physical training
Sapper training (mining, demolition)
Engineer training
Political indoctrination
Chemical warfare training
Articles of war and military justice
Map reading
First aid, medical training
Various company and battalion tactical problems

64
108
108
70
34
34
48
20
24
6
6
30

2. The first three months of the winter training period consisted of instruction on the infantry squad, platoon and company levels. During the second three months the training schedule remained the same, but was conducted on company, battalion and regimental

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levels. At the end of each of the two periods of winter training, a regimental problem was held. Summer training had more or less the same schedule as the winter training period, with the exception that a large part of the training was conducted at night (at least two hours nightly). Besides that, there was also an increase in battalion and regimental problems, which were conducted at least twice a week. At the end of the summer training period, a divisional problem of 10 to 20 days duration was held.

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3. At the conclusion of each three-month training period a regimental problem was held. This problem usually lasted 24 hours and consisted of a small scale march (10 to 15 km) in connection with a regimental attack.

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4. The following represents the average weekly training schedule

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<u>Subject</u>	<u>Number of hours</u>
Tactics	9
Close order drill	9
Firing	6
Physical training	6
Political indoctrination	4
Sapper training (mining, demolition)	3
Engineer training	3
First aid training	1
Chemical warfare training	1
Articles of war and military justice	2
Care and cleaning of weapons and equipment	1

5. The officer responsible for the training was determined by the level of training; thus, a plat ldr was responsible for training on a squad or platoon level, the CO, for that on a company level, etc. All supervision, including special training in chemical warfare, weapons, engineer and medical subjects, was given by the above-mentioned officers. Political training was, however, given only by the respective political officer.

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6. The following inspections were conducted in order to determine the training efficiency of the different units. All platoons were inspected weekly by the company commanders for neatness, personal appearance and physical fitness. The companies were inspected monthly by the battalion commanders to determine combat efficiency. ~~during battalion problems.~~ Regimental commanders inspected their battalions every three months during regimental problems to determine combat efficiency. Once a year the division was inspected by a special inspection team which came directly from Moscow. Inspection teams very often inspected individual soldiers on their neatness and personal appearance.

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7. ~~in 1949, 1950, and 1951 the inspecting~~ teams round a lack of discipline in all units of the 13th Gds Mecz Rifle Division and especially in the 45th Gds Mecz Rifle Regiment. the deficiency has never been corrected.

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special training and armored tactics:

- (a) A mecz regt was usually supported by a tank bn during an attack on a field fortification type of position.

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- (b) Infantry support tanks within the mecz regt were held by the regiment, until they were needed by the different rifle battalions and companies. the tanks were never used as a unit.

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- (c) Tanks were always required to be at the line of departure prior to the jump-off of the infantry. The tanks were held in concealment until the time of the jump-off, when they moved forward along the line of departure and past the infantry, which immediately jumped off. The specific sequence of events was always stressed during tactical training. It was emphasized that the infantry was under no circumstances to be outdistanced by the tanks and at no time was the infantry to be more than 20 m behind the tanks.

- (d) Tanks supported the infantry at all times during combat within enemy positions, but did not pursue the retreating enemy until the infantry was able to follow. It was inadvisable for the tanks to overextend their advance because of the danger of their being cut off and the resulting inability to give assistance to the infantry.

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- (e) the only means of communication between the infantry and the tanks was by means of radios available to company and battalion commanders. There were no telephones on the tanks and individual communication was impossible.

- (f) MLR tank units were intended for exploitation missions, the tanks which were intended for infantry support during an attack were located never more than 400 m behind their own infantry lines, and the distance depended on the terrain.

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- (g) sappers were sent out to neutralize mines prior to an attack; they cleared gaps 10 m wide, which were spaced 100 to 200 m apart.

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- (h) all tanks were equipped with some bridging material, which was kept on top of the tank on either side of the turret. Each tank carried two wooden planks, 600 x 70 x 20 cm.

- (i) all tanks were equipped with radios.

- (j) Large mobile tank units were used only for the initial breakthrough and consolidation of the newly occupied territory. Exploitation of the breakthrough was the job of the mechanized infantry, as was also the pursuit of the enemy.

9.

training information:

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- (a) During the winter training period, not a single movement by motor transport was made, although one such movement was made during the summer training period [See "Soviet Summer Training and Maneuvers"].

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(b) Each week all NCO's had six hours of leadership training, which was conducted by the company commanders. Company officers had similar training which was limited to six hours a month and was conducted by the battalion commander.

(c) There was no passive air defense training, but barracks were equipped with blackout curtains and emergency lights, to be used in the event of an air raid.

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(d) Alerts were usually conducted once every month; the whole regiment, weapons and equipment, had to be ready to move to a previously designated location within 30 to 45 minutes. Emergency rations and live ammunition were issued. Generally a problem was included in connection with the alert. Most of the time, the problem called for an attack against positions, which were hastily occupied by a hypothetical enemy.

25X1 (e) Political indoctrination [redacted] had absolutely nothing to do with preparing the troops for combat; its sole purpose was to acquaint the individual soldier with the political structure of the USSR.

25X1 (f) [redacted] defensive CW training, [redacted] consisted of 20 hours of gas-mask drill and gas chamber exercises for every three-month training period. The only items issued each man for the training were a gas mask and a protective cape, both of which had to be returned immediately upon completion of the exercise. Although officially a mask was to be donned in under 12 seconds, the average time needed to don one was about 25 seconds. All of the EM were required to remain in the gas chamber for a period of five minutes. [redacted] the gas used in the chamber was a tear gas.

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(g)

(h) Practically no night training was given [redacted] during the winter training phase, and the only time [redacted] go out at night was during alerts. During the summer training phase, however, night training was conducted on an average of two hours each night and consisted chiefly of patrolling and the employment of infantry tactics. Only blackout lights were utilized in conducting the night training.

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(i)

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(j) Both the individual soldier and a unit were considered ready for combat after 2½ to three months of training.

(k) All units were supposed to be ready for combat after each member of the unit had undergone 2½ months of training.

(l) Each soldier in the Soviet Army got to fire the LMG and the SMG PPSH. Thirty hours were allotted for LMG firing during each training phase.

[redacted] SMG firing, [redacted] did not exceed 10 hours. Each soldier was given 30 rounds to fire from the LMG, and from 50 to 100 rounds (depending on how many he needed) to fire the carbine.

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[redacted] information on NCO training. Every regiment had an NCO school. All soldiers who had completed more than five years of grammar school were automatically selected for NCO training. In 1949 the NCO course lasted 11 months. Since 1950 the course has been shortened to six months. The training given to NCO candidates was, in general, the same as that given to ordinary soldiers, with special emphasis, however, placed on leadership. All of the instructors in the NCO schools were officers. The schools were set up as separate companies within the regiments, and upon completion of the NCO training, all of the students were made NCO's and assigned throughout their own regiment.

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New inductees [redacted] did not receive any kind of special preliminary training. Upon arrival in the unit, they were immediately assimilated into the unit's normal training schedule.

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